October 18, 1957

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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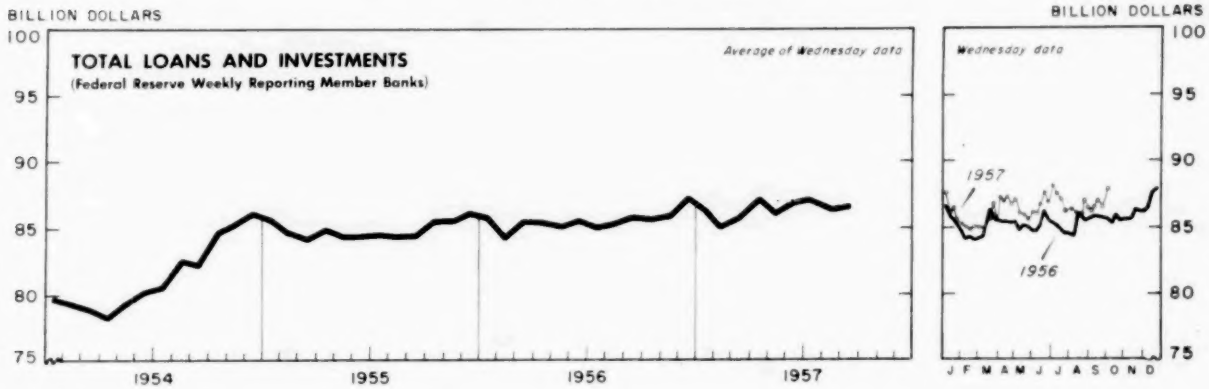
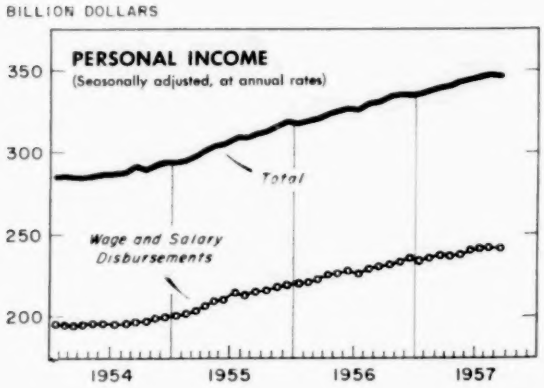
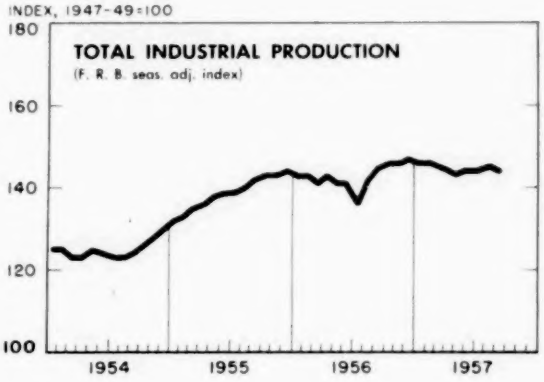
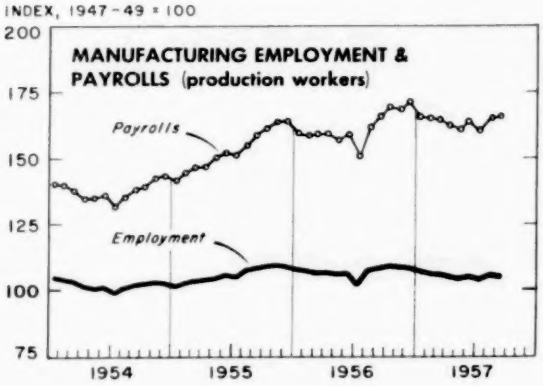
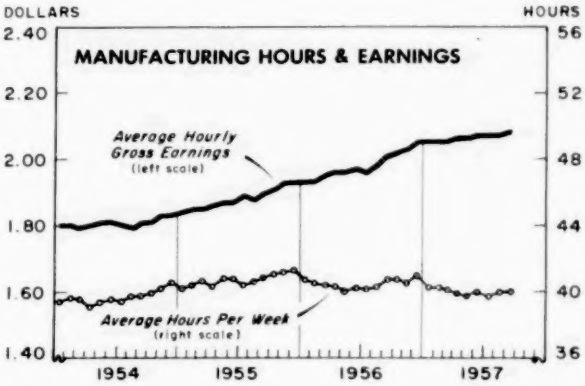
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS











WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1956		1957			
	Oct. 6	Oct. 13	Sept. 21	Sept. 28	Oct. 5	Oct. 12
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*115.5	117.9	117.7	117.5	117.5
Farm products.....do....	.....	*90.1	91.0	90.3	90.5	91.2
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*104.0	106.4	105.9	105.2	104.9
All other.....do....	.....	*123.1	125.8	125.7	125.6	125.5
22 commodities 2/.....do....	91.1	90.6	87.4	86.2	85.3	85.2
Department store sales.....do....	127	134	126	130	127	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	949	935	1,254	1,254	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	874	862	1,162	1,165	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,769	30,880	31,184	31,052	31,038	31,129
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	25,593	25,707	25,719	25,622	25,304	25,563
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,935	18,929	19,108	18,963	19,034	19,189
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	479	607	686	581	393	589
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	54,915	55,289	55,094	54,788	54,015	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	22,040	22,043	23,763	23,833	23,900	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	85,655	85,338	87,052	86,558	87,898	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	25,979	25,732	24,747	24,537	25,654	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	29,849	29,833	32,603	32,408	32,331	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,794	8,815	8,718	8,725	8,727	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	253	259	287	278	261	244
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.79	3.80	4.44	4.45	4.45	4.44
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	46.28	46.84	44.69	42.46	43.10	41.99
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	49.59	50.24	48.29	45.90	46.54	45.22
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,733	1,703	1,678	1,709	1,650	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,342	11,300	11,991	11,697	11,564	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	79,293	91,203	65,806	60,794	33,653	54,312
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	7,022	6,993	6,840	6,821	6,812	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,506	2,483	2,101	2,105	2,115	2,105
Percent of capacity 5/.....	#101.8	#100.9	82.1	82.2	82.6	82.2
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	815	823	725	739	748	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	391	399	348	352	358	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning October 14, 1957: Production, 2,092 thous. short tons; operating rate, 81.7 percent. * Monthly index for September 1956. # Not comparable with 1957 rates, which are based on higher capacity.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1956		1957			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Personal income, by source:						
Seasonally adjusted at annual rates:						
Total personal income.....bil. of dol..	329.3	331.1	344.8	346.2	r346.8	346.5
Wage and salary disbursements, total.....do....	228.8	230.4	240.1	240.9	r241.7	241.2
Commodity-producing industries.....do....	98.6	99.6	103.3	103.0	r102.8	101.9
Distributive industries.....do....	60.5	60.9	63.8	64.5	r64.7	64.7
Service industries.....do....	31.5	31.5	33.2	33.4	r33.7	33.9
Government.....do....	38.2	38.4	39.8	40.0	r40.5	40.7
Other labor income.....do....	7.6	7.6	7.9	7.9	8.0	8.0
Proprietors' and rental income.....do....	50.1	49.9	50.9	51.6	r51.2	51.1
Personal interest income and dividends.....do....	29.9	30.1	31.2	31.4	r31.6	31.7
Transfer payments.....do....	18.7	18.8	21.5	21.3	21.2	21.3
Less personal contributions for social insurance..do....	5.8	5.7	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.8
Total nonagricultural income.....do....	314.1	316.1	329.3	330.5	331.3	331.2
Industrial production (FRB):						
Unadjusted, combined index.....1947-49=100..	142	146	145	135	144	p146
Manufactures.....do....	143	148	146	136	146	p147
Durable manufactures.....do....	155	161	162	r150	159	p158
Primary metals.....do....	118	145	136	r118	r128	p131
Metal fabricating (including ordnance).....do....	167	172	176	167	r173	p171
Fabricated metal products.....do....	135	144	139	134	r141	p144
Machinery.....do....	168	177	168	158	r165	p169
Transportation equipment.....do....	186	181	216	r203	r208	p191
Instruments and related products.....do....	167	171	171	r168	r174	p174
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	123	125	118	r116	r124	p126
Lumber and products.....do....	135	133	131	r105	r125	p124
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	164	157	159	r151	r161	p161
Miscellaneous manufactures.....do....	145	150	139	131	r144	p148
Nondurable manufactures.....do....	131	134	130	122	r133	p136
Printing and publishing.....do....	133	139	140	r134	r137	p143
Petroleum and coal products.....do....	142	145	139	r139	r144	p147
Minerals.....do....	131	132	r130	123	r130	p130
Coal.....do....	87	90	88	r65	87	p86
Crude oil and natural gas.....do....	150	147	r145	r145	r146	p146

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

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ITEM	1956		1957			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS - Continued						
Industrial production (FRB) - Continued						
Adjusted, combined index.....1947-49=100..	143	144	144	144	r145	p144
Manufactures.....do....	144	146	146	146	r147	p146
Durable manufactures.....do....	158	162	162	r161	162	p159
Primary metals.....do....	125	148	132	r133	r136	p134
Metal fabricating (including ordnance).....do....	172	174	177	177	r177	p174
Fabricated metal products.....do....	134	139	139	141	r140	p140
Machinery.....do....	175	175	171	173	r172	p168
Transportation equipment.....do....	191	193	215	210	r211	p207
Instruments and related products.....do....	171	171	171	r173	r177	p174
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	122	122	121	r124	r123	p122
Lumber and products.....do....	130	126	125	r114	r121	p117
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	160	154	157	r155	r158	p158
Miscellaneous manufactures.....do....	145	146	142	141	r144	p144
Nondurable manufactures.....do....	130	130	130	130	131	p132
Printing and publishing.....do....	138	137	141	140	141	p141
Petroleum and coal products.....do....	139	143	138	r139	r142	p145
Minerals.....do....	130	131	r127	127	r130	p129
Coal.....do....	85	86	r86	83	85	p82
Crude oil and natural gas.....do....	154	151	r146	147	r150	p150
Consumer durables output (FRB):						
Unadjusted index, total.....do....	120	113	131	116	132	p117
Major consumer durables.....do....	122	111	140	121	r139	p115
Autos.....do....	109	59	156	134	148	p84
Major household goods.....do....	136	158	129	r110	133	.....
Other consumer durables.....do....	115	118	108	106	r116	p119
Adjusted index, total.....do....	127	123	129	129	133	p127
Major consumer durables.....do....	132	127	137	137	r141	p132
Autos.....do....	124	106	144	134	r145	p129
Major household goods.....do....	141	148	133	142	139	.....
Other consumer durables.....do....	114	113	108	111	r114	p115
COMMODITY PRICES						
Retail price:						
All commodities (U.S. Dept. of Commerce index).1935-39=100..	212.5	213.1	216.6	217.5	217.9	.....
DOMESTIC TRADE						
All retail stores: 1/						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	16,187	15,583	17,114	r16,864	r17,490	16,191
Durable-goods stores:						
Automotive group.....do....	3,110	2,676	3,609	3,418	r3,352	3,054
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	900	860	916	r863	r912	856
Nondurable-goods stores:						
Apparel group.....do....	863	981	994	r855	r967	1,000
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	475	465	511	513	r527	511
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,333	1,240	1,289	1,364	r1,420	1,311
Food group.....do....	3,840	3,748	3,977	4,029	r4,353	3,852
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,253	1,181	1,321	1,383	r1,374	1,278
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,663	1,699	1,680	1,540	r1,774	1,684
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	16,101	15,865	16,783	r17,034	r17,030	16,727
Durable-goods stores.....do....	5,512	5,356	5,806	r5,839	r5,740	5,639
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	10,589	10,508	10,977	r11,195	r11,290	11,088
Estimated inventories:						
Unadjusted, total.....do....	23,540	23,530	23,840	r23,660	24,040	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	10,400	10,030	10,970	r10,880	10,960	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	13,140	13,500	12,870	12,780	13,080	.....
Adjusted, total.....do....	23,750	23,430	24,090	24,140	24,250	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	10,470	10,260	10,800	10,850	11,030	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	13,280	13,170	13,290	13,290	13,220	.....
Firms with 11 or more stores, estimated sales:						
Unadjusted.....do....	3,311	3,284	3,456	3,267	3,660	.....
Adjusted.....do....	3,391	3,385	3,509	3,582	3,631	.....
Wholesale trade:						
Sales, estimated (unadjusted), total.....bil. of dol..	12.0	11.2	11.0	11.4	11.8	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	7.4	6.9	6.7	7.1	7.5	.....
Inventories, estimated (unadjusted), total.....do....	12.3	12.6	12.5	12.5	12.7	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	6.2	6.3	6.7	6.6	6.6	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	6.1	6.3	5.8	5.9	6.1	.....
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES						
Labor force (Bureau of the Census): 2/						
Civilian labor force, total.....thousands..	68,947	68,069	69,842	70,228	68,994	68,225
Employed.....do....	66,752	66,071	66,504	67,221	66,385	65,674
Agricultural employment.....do....	7,265	7,388	7,534	7,772	6,823	6,518
Nonagricultural employment.....do....	59,487	58,683	58,970	59,449	59,562	59,156
Unemployed.....do....	2,195	1,998	3,337	3,007	2,609	2,552
Employees in nonagricultural establishments:						
Total, unadjusted (U. S. Department of Labor).....do....	52,258	52,663	52,881	r52,605	r52,920	p53,169
Manufacturing.....do....	17,035	17,119	16,852	r16,710	r16,968	p16,917
Mining.....do....	839	842	858	r857	r863	p858
Contract construction.....do....	3,361	3,342	3,232	r3,275	r3,296	p3,248
Transportation and public utilities.....do....	4,190	4,191	4,181	r4,199	r4,218	p4,224

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data for September 1957 are advance estimates. 2/ Estimates beginning January 1957 reflect certain changes made in the definitions for employment and unemployment, etc. Figures for September 1957, comparable with data through September 1956, in order as above (thous.): 68,237; 65,921; 6,519; 59,402; 2,317.

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ITEM	1956		1957			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES - Continued						
Employees in nonagr. establishments, unadjusted - Con.						
Wholesale and retail trade.....thousands..	11,198	11,319	11,505	r11,493	r11,495	p11,608
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....do....	2,361	2,325	2,359	r2,390	r2,389	p2,358
Service and miscellaneous.....do....	6,293	6,322	6,551	6,524	r6,526	p6,549
Government.....do....	6,981	7,203	7,343	r7,157	r7,165	p7,407
Production workers in manufacturing industries:						
Total.....do....	13,256	13,345	12,955	r12,788	r13,050	p13,042
Durable-goods industries.....do....	7,572	7,616	7,603	r7,432	r7,490	p7,427
Ordnance and accessories.....do....	80	82	76	r74	r75	p72
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....	718	700	659	645	r651	p635
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	318	324	311	r309	r318	p319
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	475	469	459	443	r458	p459
Primary metal industries.....do....	1,091	1,128	1,093	r1,075	r1,076	p1,071
Fabricated metal products.....do....	864	885	887	r869	r881	p887
Machinery (except electrical).....do....	1,250	1,254	1,239	r1,207	r1,178	p1,182
Electrical machinery.....do....	873	886	855	r848	r860	p877
Transportation equipment.....do....	1,266	1,236	1,415	r1,373	r1,372	p1,294
Instruments and related products.....do....	231	233	224	221	r228	p229
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	5,684	5,729	5,352	5,356	r5,560	p5,615
Food and kindred products.....do....	1,246	1,282	1,056	r1,120	r1,198	p1,224
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	98	106	73	71	94	p99
Textile-mill products.....do....	956	956	913	895	r912	p909
Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....	1,089	1,085	1,045	r1,024	r1,084	p1,085
Paper and allied products.....do....	470	472	469	459	r469	p475
Printing, publishing, and allied products.....do....	550	557	556	r552	r551	p562
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	545	548	535	r529	r532	p540
Products of petroleum and coal.....do....	179	177	175	r175	r176	p176
Rubber products.....do....	206	210	197	200	204	p209
Leather and leather products.....do....	345	337	333	332	r341	p338
Manufacturing production-worker indexes:						
Employment: Unadjusted.....1947-49=100..	107.2	107.9	104.7	r103.4	r105.5	p105.4
Adjusted.....do....	106.2	106.0	105.3	r104.9	r104.6	p103.7
Payrolls, unadjusted.....do....	161.5	166.7	163.8	r160.5	r165.0	p165.7
Hours and earnings:						
Average weekly hours per worker, all manufacturing...hours..	40.3	40.7	40.0	39.7	r40.0	p40.0
Durable-goods industries.....do....	40.8	41.3	40.5	40.0	r40.3	p40.3
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	39.6	39.8	39.2	39.4	r39.5	p39.5
Average weekly earnings, all manufacturing.....dollars..	79.79	81.81	82.80	82.18	r82.80	p83.20
Durable-goods industries.....do....	85.68	88.38	88.70	88.00	r88.66	p89.06
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	71.68	72.44	74.09	74.86	r74.26	p74.66
Average hourly earnings, all manufacturing.....do....	1.98	2.01	2.07	2.07	2.07	p2.08
Durable-goods industries.....do....	2.10	2.14	2.19	2.20	2.20	p2.21
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	1.81	1.82	1.89	1.90	r1.88	p1.89
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district -- U.S. and Canadian ores):						
Shipments from upper lake ports.....thous. of long tons..	8,045	12,745	13,597	14,212	13,172	11,806
Consumption by furnaces.....do....	1/6,858	7,217	6,931	7,157	7,039	.....
Stocks, end of month, total.....do....	35,475	41,213	29,570	37,148	43,951	.....
At furnaces.....do....	31,901	37,376	26,823	33,975	40,380	.....
On Lake Erie docks.....do....	3,574	3,837	2,747	3,173	3,571	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data are for July and August 1956.
USCOMM-DC-12604

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